

## AID FOR STEEL STRIKERS.

The American Federation of Labor in Sympathy With Them.

The General Organizer of That Body Confers With Mr. Shaffer in Regard to Funds—One Victory and One Reverse for the Union Men.

PITTSBURGH, July 17.—An important conference was held at the headquarters of the Amalgamated Association of Steel Workers, shortly before noon today on the matter of the strike against the great trust. Mr. Shaffer, the President of the Steel Workers' Union, met Thomas H. Flynn, the General Organizer of the American Federation of Labor.

What action, if any, was taken toward a sympathetic strike is not known, as neither official would discuss the subject. Flynn was outspoken, however, in regard to the attitude of his organization toward the Amalgamated Association. He said:

"The American Federation of Labor has 2,000,000 members who are paying dues and all are in sympathy with the strikers. I came here to tender any financial aid within reason, asked for by the organization that is making the present strike. The details have not been arranged yet but something will be done before I leave town. A per capita tax of 25 cents a week has been suggested. This would yield \$200,000 a week and would give the Amalgamated Association a fund that would enable it to fight to the finish."

The striking hoop, sheet, and tin workers had one victory and one disappointment today, and it is expected that tomorrow will bring exciting developments in the struggle between organized labor and the great combine.

## A VICTORY AT WELLSVILLE.

There was great rejoicing at the headquarters of the Amalgamated Association before noon, when the news came from Wellsville, Ohio, that the order of P. E. Smith, District President of the American Sheet Steel Company, to start the plant today with non-union men was not obeyed. The telegram from Wellsville stated that, in response to the call for men issued by the company, only thirty-one workers turned up. The company had expected to have a large number of men, but the men who recently joined the Amalgamated Association, reported at the mill office. The local officers of the company held a conference and decided that there were not a sufficient number on hand to form a working crew, so no attempt was made to resume operations.

From another source it was learned here that the plan of starting up the Wellsville plant, while not successful, has not been abandoned. It is expected that the men of the plant do not report at once, outsiders will be taken to the town. It is feared that a move of this kind will cause trouble.

The first report of the Amalgamated Association was reported at 10 o'clock. As announced yesterday, the organization succeeded in closing all the mills of the American Steel Hoop Company, with the exception of the Dunsmuir plant near Altoona, Pa., and it was confident that success would attend its efforts to organize the non-union men there. It is reported, however, that the men held a secret meeting last night at which they refused to meet representatives of the company or organizers of the Amalgamated Association and decided not to go out. The plant is not a large one.

## RAILROAD MEN MAY STRIKE.

There are rumors that the Brotherhood of Engineers and Trainmen may be brought into the fight at Wellsville, Ohio. The yardmen there are said to have received notice that any refusal to handle cars at the mill yards would result in instant dismissal. The numerous meetings of railroad employees have been held.

From news received in Pittsburgh by officers of the Amalgamated Association trouble is expected shortly from the National Steel Company's plant in Mingo Junction, Ohio. It is expected that a special scale of the Amalgamated Association and there is a single 10-inch mill belonging to the American Steel Hoop Company. It has thus far been non-union. If a report from Steubenville, Ohio, to the effect that the hoop men from the Mingo Junction mill have formed an Amalgamated Association lodge proves true, the danger of trouble is over until the company attempts to start the plant with non-union men. The despatch from Steubenville says:

"Amalgamated District Vice President Walter Larkins, of Martins Ferry, came to Mingo Junction today and organized the American Steel Hoop Company employees into the union. A strike was ordered at once at the plant there. An attempt is being made to get men to return to the plant. If these men go out the entire plant will be closed."

Mr. Shaffer was asked this morning to state in what mills non-union men are now employed, also to say whether they are paid less in these mills than union men are paid in mills employing exclusively union labor. He said:

"I do not wish to state the names of firms, but non-union mills do not pay union prices, there being lower. Since the trouble began some of the non-union rates have been raised almost to ours to quiet the men and keep them from joining the Amalgamated Association, and this is done every year when the scales are being made, and the increase at these mills is only temporary."

"At the recent conference here we asked two things only, first, sign the scale for all mills; second, let the men in non-union mills, who under duress, agreed to keep out of the Amalgamated Association, that they are free to do as they please."

"I want to venture the prediction that the strike will spread to other plants of the United States Steel Corporation without any effort on our part. Men in all quarters are anxious to leave the mills in order to assist in the present great struggle. I would be surprised to see the strike sentiment spread to the upper and lower union mills of the Carnegie Company in this city. The strike is spreading and growing fast. It is spontaneous and without effort on our part."

## TO START THE PAINTER MILL.

An early development today was the report that the American Steel Hoop Company has decided to test the strength of the Amalgamated Association this week. An attempt will be made to start the mill at West Cameron Street, South Side. This is said to be the reason that so many laborers and boys have been employed all week cleaning up the mill. Mr.

The "Department Limited" a Daisy, fast train for Chesapeake Beach—5 p. m.

Buy Lumber up-town for lowest prices, at 6th and New York ave. n.w.

Harper, manager of the Painter plant, has the reputation of being a strike breaker. He brought one to a sudden close a few years ago, and it is said that he has promised to succeed this time, if the American Steel Hoop Company will give him as free a rein as he had before.

The closing of the Painter mill was one of the surprises of the strike. As it has been operated by non-union men ever since Mr. Harper settled the former trouble with the men it was supposed that no attention would be paid to Mr. Shaffer's order to go out. In fact the union men only to a few that an Amalgamated Association lodge had been organized by the employees, but the plant was closed last Sunday night and has not turned a wheel since. It is claimed, however, that many of the men do not belong to the association and were opposed to walking out. Mr. Harper is depending upon these dissatisfied ones to help him out when he acts ready to resume operations.

There were few signs of life at the plant this morning. West Carson Street divides the mills and makes it impossible for the company to force in its buildings, as was done at Homestead and other places here during trouble with the men. On the north are the tracks of the Lake Erie Railroad, and on the south side of Cameron Street the buildings extend from the curb line to the high wall of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad.

The company gobbled the sidewalk yards before the trust was thought of. The railroad tracks are thirty feet higher than the street and back of the rails is Dupont Heights, the top of which is 200 feet above the street. Protecting the plant, in the event of an outbreak on the part of the men, would be a serious problem.

So far the strikers are obeying Mr. Shaffer's order to stay away from the mill and the dozen or so watchmen employed by Mr. Harper have nothing to do but keep cool. The recently organized Amalgamated Association lodge, which was taken over by the company, held another meeting last night and a report was made that many new members were enrolled. If, as reported, the company intends to make an effort to start this week, it is evident that the fight is not to finish, as this plant is now under the nose of the Amalgamated Association.

## EXPECTING A VICTORY.

Striking Colliery Firemen Jubilant Over the Situation.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., July 17.—The striking firemen are jubilant over the difficulty of the local companies in keeping steam up at their mines, and they believe the pumps going, but the company will, in many instances, see their pumps idle and the mines flooded with water. In this event they expect a speedy settlement of the strike, as the companies cannot afford to have their mines damaged.

No attempt was made by any of the companies this morning to resume work at their mines, the operators being satisfied to keep steam going. The firemen now at the pumps are said to be a motley lot, being made up of coal and iron police, fire bosses, clerks, and any one the companies could pick up. In many cases the firemen have been hired to assist, but the firemen believe a few days will be enough for them.

Meetings of the engineers' local unions were at once called. It was quickly decided, at a meeting held today in the city, that the men would go on strike at once, and also that they would not remain at work if an attempt to run the mines with non-union firemen was made. They do not object to working to keep the fans and the pumps going, but will not countenance regular work of the entire collieries unless union firemen are employed.

Most of the companies, when notified of the action of the engineers, did not insist upon their order the morning, but a few did and the engineers, at once left. The officials of the Mine Workers' Union will not say yet what the miners will do in the event of the companies ordering a resumption of work with non-union steam makers, but the majority of the workers themselves sympathize with the strikers. The policy of the miners' union is to concern itself as little as possible with the strike, and to stick to their agreement with the coal operators, adopted last April, when on receipt of a 10 per cent increase they agreed to remain at work without striking until next April.

They point out, too, that the firemen, while they worked during the miners' strike of last fall, also received the 10 per cent increase and are in a measure bound by the same agreement as the mine workers. The union, however, has no look that entirely and think only of what they call the injustice of making men work twelve hours a day. If it comes to a test it is believed by many that the miners will not strike, but will wait until the sanction of the national officers, will go on a strike in sympathy.

The loss in wages each day for all who are now idle owing to the strike is estimated at \$100,000. The firemen in the Hazleton region are not on a strike yet, and it is not expected they will go out before the end of the week. They are members of the United Mine Workers and are referred to by the union as "hangers on," and are already at work among them and the men are willing to strike as soon as their organization is complete. It is expected that the strike will be called by next Monday at the latest.

## HARVARD'S TRACK TEAM.

Henry M. Whitney Gives Them Training Facilities.

BOSTON, July 17.—The interesting announcement is made this morning that the Harvard track team, which will be selected to compete with the English athletes from Oxford and Cambridge, is referred to by the union as "hangers on," and are already at work among them and the men are willing to strike as soon as their organization is complete. It is expected that the strike will be called by next Monday at the latest.

## A Tariff Proposed at the Trans-Mississippi Congress.

CRIPPLE CREEK, Col., July 17.—Some surprise was caused at yesterday's session of the Trans-Mississippi Congress by Senator T. M. Patterson, Democrat, who introduced a resolution favoring a protective tariff for the best sugar industry. Its purpose is to secure aid for Western beet sugar growers in their struggle with the Sugar Trust.

## Army Captains Assigned.

First officers recently promoted from army lieutenants to be captains have been assigned as follows: Capt. Herbert A. White to First Cavalry; Capt. Nathan K. Averill to Seventh Cavalry; Capt. Harry La T. Cavanaugh to Tenth Cavalry.

## Flynn's Business College, 8th and R.

Business, shorthand, typewriting—\$25 a year.

## Soft yellow Tenn. Poplars; perfect dressed, 40c.

Soft yellow Tenn. Poplars; perfect dressed, 40c.

## FIGHTING TO BE RESUMED.

Another Effort to Crush the Filipino Rebellion.

Civil Government Suspended in Batangas, Cebu, Samar, and Bohol. The Campaign to Be in Charge of Chaffee—Malvar to Surrender.

MANILA, July 17.—Revolution has again broken out on a considerable scale at several places and the Philippine Commission has decided to adopt drastic measures to end the trouble.

As a result of a meeting of the Commission to consider the situation, it has been voted to suspend civil government in Batangas, Cebu, Samar, and Bohol, and to turn those places over to a body of troops under the command of General Chaffee for the severest kind of warfare until peace has been established.

A battalion of infantry sailed today for Batangas. The remaining battalions which are to take part in the movement against the Filipinos will leave Calamba, Laguna Province, and make the journey over the high roads to Batangas. They will enter the southern hills as part of the general scheme of campaign.

General Trias, of Cavite Province, formerly one of the leading insurgent generals, has received a telegram from the intermediary whom he sent to the camp of General Malvar to urge the latter to surrender. The telegram states that, although General Malvar swore at one time that he would be the last man to surrender, he has now signified his willingness to yield and take the oath of allegiance.

The Fourth Regular Infantry, which came here with the first command under General Merritt in July, 1898, will sail for home on the transport Sheridan next Friday.

General Corbin held a reception today at the headquarters of Gen. Chaffee, and attended a reception given by Governor Taft tonight.

## EXPLOSION OF A BALLOON.

One Person Killed and Twenty Injured at Schlusshausburg.

ST. PETERSBURG, July 17.—A military balloon descended at Schlusshausburg today and exploded, killing one man and injuring twenty. One person was killed and twenty injured.

## GENERAL GROSVENOR SAILS.

The Ohioan to Spend a Few Weeks in England.

NEW YORK, July 17.—Gen. C. H. Grosvenor, of Ohio, sailed by the steamship St. Louis today for a few weeks' holiday in England. He is expected to return here August 24 on the St. Paul ready to pitch into politics for the fall election in his State.

## CARNEGIE OFFER ACCEPTED.

New York to Have Sixty-five Branch Libraries.

NEW YORK, July 17.—The board of estimate, at a meeting held today in the mayor's office, formally approved an agreement or contract between the city of New York and the New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations, by the terms of which the city accepts the offer of Andrew Carnegie to provide the sum of \$5,000,000 for the purpose of building and equipping sixty-five free circulating libraries.

## AN HONOR FOR DR. CONATY.

A Report That He Has Been Elevated to a Bishopric.

PLATTSBURGH, N. Y., July 17.—A cable despatch has been received from Cardinal Gibbons, who is now abroad, announcing the elevation of the Rev. Thomas J. Conaty, D. D., to a bishopric. Dr. Conaty, when questioned last night, said he had nothing to say regarding the appointment.

It is a curious coincidence that when raised to the bishopric of the Catholic University at Washington Dr. Conaty was President of the Catholic Summer School, near here, and that now, when news comes of the second great honor conferred upon him he is at Cliff Haven, where he is delivering a course of lectures.

## ASKS FOR A MILLION DOLLARS.

A Frenchman Makes an Unusual Request of Secretary Hay.

In Secretary Hay's mail today was a request from a man in France for the gift of \$1,000,000. The letter was evidently written in good faith and the writer said he wanted it to re-establish himself in business in which he had failed through adverse circumstances.

As evidence of his worthiness, the writer enclosed a card to show that he was a member of the "Society for the Promotion of Arbitration Among Nations," and referred to Mr. Hay's advocacy of the principle of arbitration.

Mr. Hay is willing to assign the request to anyone of philanthropic instincts with \$1,000,000 to spare.

## THE ALASKAN TELEGRAPH.

Communication Soon to Be Established With Sitka.

The Signal Corps of the Army expects to have telegraphic communication established between Washington and Sitka, the capital of Alaska, by September 1, and to aid in the work upon the lines already in progress. Major J. D. Gage, Secretary of the Signal Corps, has received the enlistment of about forty additional operators and linemen.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in inducing these classes of workmen to enlist in the army for service in Alaska. The department is, however, holding out the inducement of the large advantages and opportunities offered to men who go to Alaska and become familiar with the country in the great gold and copper regions.

Captain Bunnell, who is building the telegraphic line from Valdez northward to Eagle City, is in need of more men and as soon as he has completed his task work will be commenced on a line connecting Eagle City with Fort Hamlin.

The line from St. Michaels already extends to Fort Hamlin and the idea is to extend the wires across to Eagle City. The Canadian line from the latter place was expected to be opened July 15, and will probably be delayed only a short time.

The cable between Juneau and Skagway will be completed this summer and from the latter point a line will connect with the Canadian telegraph and thus communication will be established between Washington and Sitka, the capital of Alaska.

## A Policy on the King's Life.

DUBLIN, July 17.—At the auction rooms here today a \$500 policy on the life of King Edward VII was sold for £2,500.

## Great Races at Brightonwood.

Thursday, July 18.

Best Shingles, \$5.75 per 1,000—size 62, at Sixth and New York avenue.

## STEAMER AND YACHT COLLIDE.

Both Vessels Badly Damaged Off the Connecticut Coast.

NEW LONDON, Conn., July 17.—The steam yacht Wild Duck, owned by Francis B. Greene, of New York, and enrolled in the New York Yacht Club, is in this harbor badly damaged as the result of a collision last night off Cornfield Lightship with the steamer Tremont, of the Joy Line, running between Providence and New York.

The Tremont is also here. She was towed in by the steamer New Hampshire and left at the mouth of the harbor, from where she came to a point opposite Scott's wharf. Since she reached this harbor, she has been under the command of the New Hampshire. The steamer was towed in stern first, because her forward boiler had been filled with water, and she settled down by the head. The Tremont had 200 passengers and a large cargo of freight. Her passengers were all taken to New York by the Norwich Line steamer City of Lowell.

The Tremont was on her regular trip from Providence to New York and the collision occurred off the Massachusetts coast, about 10 miles from New London, Conn. The Tremont was on her regular trip from Providence to New York and the collision occurred off the Massachusetts coast, about 10 miles from New London, Conn.

The Tremont blew distress signals, and the City of Lowell, which was on the coast, responded to the signals. The Worcester responded to the signals, and Captain McDonald sent a boat's crew with Clusey, the mate, in charge to ascertain what the trouble was.

The City of Lowell had gone up alongside the Tremont and taken off all her passengers. The New Hampshire took the Tremont in tow as soon as the passengers had been taken off, and came into New London.

The Tremont was struck on the port side with terrific force, for the starboard side of the stern is bulged from the force of the collision. The stern is badly twisted. The bow of the Wild Duck is gone, and a gaping wound is exposed there. It is claimed that the Wild Duck ran into the steamer and then backed away before the extent of the damage was learned.

The Tremont is a wooden vessel, built at Greenpoint, N. Y., in 1883. She was under charter to the Joy Line for some time, but the company had just purchased and paid for her. It is understood that there is no insurance whatever on the Tremont.

The freight deck is under water and the cargo is on the flats down the harbor. The Wild Duck is at anchor off the railway station.

## COLONEL STAPLES' CAPTIVITIES.

At Least One of Them Thought to Have Operated Here.

The local police authorities this morning received a postal card from the Oswego, N. Y., chief of police, with a description of a man who had been seen in the city. The man was described as a tall, thin, dark man, with a mustache, and who are supposed to be the same men pursued and captured by Col. G. Staples at Brookville, Ontario, yesterday.

Charles Hayes, R. M. English, and L. M. Smith are given as the names of the men wanted at Oswego for passing worthless checks to the value of \$500, an offense in New York equivalent to grand larceny.

According to press despatches the men pursued by Colonel Staples, who was victimized at the Thousand Island House to the extent of \$200, are the same as those wanted in Chicago and at Thousand Island House. They are claimed to be Dr. A. W. Whitmore, Charles Arnold, and Jean St. Clair, of Washington.

After several days' stay at the Thousand Island House the strangers prepared for departure and returned to New York. Their bill for a check for \$200, drawn on a Washington bank, Colonel Staples accepted the check, and paid over to the men in cash the difference between their bill and the amount of the check. Becoming suspicious Colonel Staples later telegraphed to Washington and learned the check was not good. In his steam yacht Nereid Colonel Staples gave chase to the boat and captured it. The boat was overtaken and arrested at Brookville.

Only one thing has been learned that would identify the other three men ever operated in this city. On the books at Police Headquarters is the name R. M. English, and appended is a description somewhat similar to that of "R. M. English" who was wanted at Oswego.

English was convicted of vagrancy and served a sentence in the workhouse here. That was about two years ago, when there was no law giving protection to hotel keepers against swindlers. It is alleged that English had secured a local hotel out of a good sized bill. He represented himself, it is said, as a steward at Providence Hospital.

The fact that the members of the party had in their possession checks on Washington banks leads to the supposition that at least one of them must have been in this city at one time or another.

## WILL REMAIN AT CANTON.

No Business to Demand the President's Return to Washington.

There is no intimation that the President intends to return to Washington within the next few days, or to any public business. There are no matters of great importance which will demand his presence here for some time.

The President is now conducting the business of his office at Canton, and, according to Mr. Gage, Secretary of the White House, is resting quietly and thoroughly enjoying himself.

Mrs. McKinley continues to improve. She is able to go in and out of doors every pleasant day.

## THE TEA IMPORTERS' CASE.

Argument Concerning the Records of the Board of Experts.

Hearing in the case of George Hamilton against the tea importers of New York, against Max E. Gage, Secretary of the Treasury, and the board of tea experts, in which the court was asked to compel the experts to file a copy of the proceedings of the board, was begun today by Justice Bradley.

Argument in the case took up the entire morning session of the court and after the recess hour the hearing was resumed.

## Artillerymen Back From Manila.

The transport Indiana arrived in San Francisco today from Manila, bringing four battalions of Light Artillery. These are the first organizations of the regular army to return from the Philippines.

## Go to Chautauqua Beach (Bay Ridge).

Delightful trips daily at 6:30 p. m. from 7th st. to Old Point, Norfolk, Va. Beach, Ocean View, and Newport News. For schedule see page 8.

Car load new Doors, \$1.00, W. P. 6th and 10th, at Sixth and New York ave. n.w.

## THE DATE OF EVACUATION.

Pekin to Be Turned Over to the Chinese August 14.

The Last of the Allied Forces to Leave the City on That Day—The Celestials Believe They Have Won Out the Foreign Commanders.

PEKIN, July 17.—The foreign ministers have decided that the full and final evacuation of the capital by the military forces of the allied Powers shall take place on August 14, the anniversary of the relief of the legations after the siege of the Boxers. On the date mentioned the full control of the city will be formally transferred to the Chinese at a public function.

Nothing has yet been decided regarding the detailed ceremonies to be held on the occasion of the abandonment of the city by the foreign soldiery, but it is believed that the demonstration will, in many respects, be an impressive and memorable one.

The prospective evacuation is being made a matter of congratulation among the Chinese, since they believe that they have been successful in wearing out the patience of the foreign commanders. The departure of the allies while so many important questions are pending, however, is a matter of regret to the foreign residents of the city and many of them do not hesitate to say that it is an ill-advised move before matters have been settled to the satisfaction of those representing the civilized nations.

The proposition for the formal evacuation was made by Sir Ernest Satow, the British Minister, and was supported by the representatives of Germany and Italy. The French Minister preferred to delay the date for the withdrawal of the troops until later, but he finally agreed to the British proposition.

## THE FLEET GOING TO SEA.

End of the Squadron's Work at Camp Higginson.

NANTUCKET, Mass., July 17.—Camp Higginson is a thing of the past as far as the fleet is concerned, as nearly everything is on board the vessels of the North Atlantic squadron now in Nantucket waters, and the fleet will sail this evening for Newport. Coal will be taken on at Newport and the vessels will go to sea for target practice. The sea was so high yesterday that it was impossible to attempt the task of getting the 5-inch naval gun aboard ship and several important drills have been postponed on account of the weather. The day was devoted to target practice for all the men and Rear Admiral Higginson was highly pleased with the work accomplished.

The boat which started for the shore with the Rear Admiral was grounded on the sands and four sturdy marines rescued him as he lay on his shoulders, the water being waist deep. One of the launches was driven high and dry on the beach, but fifty blue jackets soon had the craft in a safe position.

## LORILLARD'S WILL TO STAND.

Relative Decide Not to Begin a Contest.

NEW YORK, July 17.—It is announced that there will be no contest of the will of the late Pierre Lorillard, which will be offered for probate before the Prerogative Court tomorrow. This assurance is said to have been made by the Chancellor Magistrate, by the counsel for Mr. Lorillard.

This is taken to mean that the matter of ownership of Rancocas, the stock farm near Hoboken, N. J., which Mr. Lorillard left to Mrs. Lillian R. Allen, has been settled and that the blood heirs will retain the property in spite of the stories that have been current to the contrary.

The story that Mrs. Allen was installed at Rancocas and that she would stay there with a view to fighting the blood heirs for possession of the place is denied today. It is said that the farm is in the hands of the executors, pending the filing of the will for probate, and that, acting under the order of the executors, Dr. R. W. Carter, who is in charge of the farm, will allow no one to enter the gates except upon the order of the executors.

## TO SAIL ON THE NIPPON MARU.

Ex-Captain Strong and His Companion Leave for Japan.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 16.—Putnam B. Strong, ex-captain in the United States Army, whose resignation was accepted on Monday, has gone aboard the Nippon Maru with his companion, said to be Lady Strong, to sail for Japan and China this afternoon.

They are incognito and accompanied by two servants. Twelve trunks and their dogs were taken aboard the steamer last night. They have been in seclusion since their embarkment from the California hotel last week.

## THE DROUGHT CONTINUES.

Heavy Losses Certain in Kansas and Oklahoma.

WICHITA, Kan., July 17.—A correspondent has just returned from a tour of crop investigation, covering the valleys of the Arkansas, Minnesota, Chikashia, Cimarron, and North Canadian Rivers, the corn-producing regions of Kansas and Oklahoma. By talking with farmers, country merchants, and grain dealers he found that the serious condition of the corn was minimized rather than exaggerated in previous despatches.

The rain reported as having fallen on Monday night was exceedingly light local showers and had no effect whatever on the crop. If anything, the condition of the corn, oats, alfalfa, and kafir is worse in Oklahoma than in Kansas, while the prospects for hay and pasture grasses in the event of an immediate rain are better.

Governor Stanley told the correspondent that Kansas would produce 100,000,000 bushels of corn, which means less than half a crop but investigation hardly seems to warrant the statement. If Kansas and Oklahoma farmers can gather a fourth of a crop they will be well satisfied.

## DENTISTS FOR THE ARMY.

Work of the Examining Board About Completed.

The dental examining board of the army will adjourn the last of this week, when the examination of several candidates will be completed.

Twenty-three of the thirty dental surgeons provided for in the Army Reorganization bill have been appointed and there are seven vacancies yet to be filled.

## Norfolk &amp; Washington Steamboat Co.

Delightful trips daily at 6:30 p. m. from 7th st. to Old Point, Norfolk, Va. Beach, Ocean View, and Newport News. For schedule see page 8.

Car load new Doors, \$1.00, W. P. 6th and 10th, at Sixth and New York ave. n.w.

## JAPAN PREVENTS A CRISIS.

The Request to Increase Its Chinese Indemnity Withdrawn.

Japan, by the exercise of characteristic moderation, has prevented a crisis in the negotiations at Peking over the amount of indemnity to be paid by China. Information has reached the State Department to the effect that the Japanese Government has withdrawn its request to be allowed to increase its indemnity claims so as to cover the reduction of more than \$100,000 in its aggregate claims caused by the necessity of selling Chinese par bonds, to be given in payment of the pecuniary demands of the Powers, at 85. Japan's claims amounted to only \$24,000,000, an exceedingly reasonable sum in view of the fact that the Tokyo Government furnished most of the troops that participated in the Peking relief expedition. When Japan found that she could not sell the bonds for more than 85 she asked the Powers to permit an increase in her claims to cover the loss. Russia vigorously opposed this proposal and was later joined by another Power, the name of which was not known. After some hesitation the United States Government instructed Special Commissioner Rockhill to urge on the foreign negotiators the acceptance of Japan's proposition. Considerable friction had been caused among the representatives of the Powers at Peking over the matter, but it has now been ended through Japan's withdrawal.

It is admitted here that there is serious difference of opinion at Peking over the question of increasing the maritime customs duties. Great Britain was opposed to any increase over 5 per cent. Russia, however, wants a much greater increase, holding that it will be necessary to do this to prevent China from defaulting in her payments of indemnity to the Powers. As most of the maritime customs are paid on American and English goods, and as Russia has very little maritime trade with China, the burden of additional taxation would fall principally on America and England.

While in sympathy with Great Britain's attitude, the United States Government is in favor of deferring consideration of this question until the general settlement of the Chinese troubles has been effected.

It is understood that Great Britain has submitted a new proposition, intended to meet Russia's objections, but no information concerning its details is obtainable.